



2009-06-03

Dear Sir/Madame,

The Canadian Standards Strategy (CSS) 2009-2012 provides a unique opportunity to advance Canada's national and international leadership in standardization.

Standards are a vital part of the Canadian community. In uncertain global economic times, the importance of standards to government, industry and individuals is magnified. From improving the national and international flow of goods and services to helping enhance and protect the lifestyle, safety and well-being of Canadians, standards become even more pivotal to our competitiveness, innovation and growth.

Standards provide industry with the support it needs to compete effectively both at home and abroad. From helping small businesses develop and prepare their first growth plans, to aiding medium-sized and larger businesses to enter and succeed in the global marketplace, standards are the cornerstone that support Canada's success as a trading nation.

The CSS provides direction and leadership to Canada's National Standards System (NSS) on how best to use standards and accreditation to advance the well-being of Canadians in the global economy. It represents a collaborative effort to identify the collective needs and priorities of NSS stakeholders, and identifies the focus for the Standards Council of Canada (SCC) and stakeholders over the next three years.

As Minister of Industry, I recognize the ability and proven track record of the Standards Council of Canada. The SCC is a recognized leader internationally and regionally, and the primary advocate of the Canadian Standards Strategy. Its programs and services are strongly aligned with Government of Canada priorities.

It is my hope that all levels of government, industry, consumer and non-governmental organizations, will be guided by the vision and goals of this strategy and work together with the Standards Council of Canada to build an enhanced infrastructure for standardization in Canada.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tony Clement".

Honourable Tony Clement